

Disliking Polygamy

From: *Al-Muntaqaa min Fataawa* Volume 3 Page 230
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Question:

What is the ruling of the one who dislikes and makes others detest the marrying of four wives?

What is the origin of marriage according to the *Sunnah*, is it to marry four or one?

Answer:

It is not permissible to detest or chase people away from anything Allaah The Most High has legislated. This is considered to be apostasy in the religion of Al-Islam.

Allaah, The Most High said,

‘That is because they hate that which Allaah has sent down (this Qur’ān and Islaamic laws, etc.), so He has made their deeds fruitless.’

[Surah Muhammad 47:9]

So this affair is serious. The cause of this is the effects of the (false) propaganda of the disbelievers. Those who chase people away from Al-Islam and throw doubts, which the naïve individuals from the Muslims fall victim to; those Muslims who are unaware of the wisdom of the Islaamic Legislation, and one of the greatest examples of this is Polygamy, which bears benefits for the women firstly, then the men.

As for whether Polygamy is the origin of marriage or not, then from what I have read I have not come across this from the statements of any of the scholars of *tafseer*.

The noble verse¹ highlights the fact that the person who is able to fulfil the rights of the women (i.e. housing, maintenance etc.) then it is permissible for him to marry up to four wives. As for the one who is unable to, then he should suffice with one, or take that which the right hand possesses (i.e. slave girl/s). And Allaah knows best.

As for the aspect of fairness and being just (between ones wives) then this is with regards to the justice one is capable of carrying out, such as housing and maintenance. As for being just in the issue of love and compassion (between ones wives), which is uncontrollable, then this has no bearing in the prevention of Polygamy.

¹ Surah Nisaa: 2